

Applic. No. 10/701,836
Amdt. dated July 19, 2006
Reply to Office action of April 19, 2006

Claim Amendments

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions,
and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 to 18 (cancelled).

Claim 19 (previously presented): A support, comprising:

a support part having a top side and an underside and defining
at least one locating hole having a hole edge; and

a fixing pin captively disposed in said at least one hole,
said fixing pin having:

a bottom insertion section;

a center shank section; and

a top retaining section defining a plurality of retaining
teeth of different lengths, said teeth including:

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at least one relatively long retaining tooth
overlapping said hole edge of said locating hole at
said top side; and

at least one relatively short retaining tooth
undercutting said hole edge at said underside.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The support according to
claim 19, wherein said long retaining tooth has an end and is
angled outward at said end.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): The support according to claim 19,
wherein said short retaining tooth has an end and is angled at
said end in a manner selected from one of the group consisting
of outward and inward.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The support according to
claim 20, wherein said short retaining tooth has an end and is
angled at said end in a manner selected from one of the group
consisting of outward and inward.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The support according to
claim 19, wherein said retaining teeth are elastic.

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Claim 24 (previously presented): The support according to
claim 19, wherein:

said fixing pin has an inside and an outside; and

said long retaining teeth are bent at least slightly outward.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The support according to
claim 19, wherein:

said locating hole has a hole diameter;

said fixing pin has an inside, an outside, and a
circumferential diameter;

said short retaining teeth are bent at least slightly outward
and have a free end; and

said circumferential diameter at said free end is greater than
said hole diameter of said locating hole.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The support according to
claim 24, wherein:

said locating hole has a hole diameter;

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said fixing pin has an inside, an outside, and a
circumferential diameter;

said short retaining teeth are bent at least slightly outward
and have a free end; and

said circumferential diameter at said free end is greater than
said hole diameter of said locating hole.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The support according to
claim 19, wherein said fixing pin has a cylindrical shank
section extending between said retaining section and said
insertion section.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The support according to
claim 19, wherein said center shank section is a cylindrical
shank section extending between said retaining section and
said insertion section.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The support according to
claim 19, wherein said insertion section is elastic.

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Claim 30 (previously presented): The support according to claim 19, wherein said insertion section is recessed over a sectional length by a formation of push-in arms.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The support according to claim 19, wherein said insertion section has push-in arms defined by recesses.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The support according to claim 19, wherein said insertion section has an end and push-in arms at said end defined by recesses extending from said end toward said center shank section.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The support according to claim 19, wherein said insertion section has an end and a bevel directed inward at said end.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The support according to claim 19, wherein said fixing pin has pin diameter, a circumference, and at least one prominence on said circumference enlarging said pin diameter.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The support according to claim 19, wherein said fixing pin is a one-piece sleeve.

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Claim 36 (previously presented): The support according to claim 19, wherein said fixing pin has an axial direction and a continuous longitudinal slot running in said axial direction.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The support according to claim 19, wherein said fixing pin is held in said locating hole with at least one of a radial clearance and an axial clearance.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The support according to claim 36, wherein said long retaining teeth are angled outward to bear against said hole edge of said locating hole when inserted therein.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The support according to claim 38, wherein said fixing pin is centered in said locating hole.

Claim 40 (previously presented): In a support part having a top side and an underside and defining at least one locating hole having a hole edge, a support connector, comprising:

a fixing pin captively disposed in the at least one hole and having:

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a bottom insertion section;

a center shank section; and

a top retaining section defining a plurality of retaining
teeth of different lengths, said teeth including:

at least one relatively long retaining tooth
overlapping the hole edge of the locating hole at
the top side; and

at least one relatively short retaining tooth
undercutting the hole edge at the underside.

Claim 41 (currently amended): A fixing pin for at least one
of positioning and retaining a support part on a mounting
part, the support part defining at least one locating hole
having a hole edge and the mounting part defining a hole, the
fixing pin comprising:

a pin body having:

a top retaining section having a plurality of retaining
teeth of different lengths for accommodating the hole

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edge of the locating hole of the support part between
said teeth;

~~as~~ a bottom insertion section; and

a center shank section to be inserted into the hole of
the mounting part via said insertion section and,
thereby, produce a push-in connection between the support
part and the mounting part.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The fixing pin according to
claim 41, wherein the support part is a gasket, and the
mounting part is a cylinder head of a piston engine.

Claim 43 (withdrawn): The fixing pin according to claim 41,
wherein:

said plurality of retaining teeth include relatively long
retaining teeth and relatively short retaining teeth;

said long retaining teeth have integrally formed lugs; and

at least one of said long retaining teeth and said lugs form a
virtually closed ring.

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Claim 44 (currently amended): A fixing pin for at least one of positioning and retaining a gasket on a cylinder head of a piston engine, the gasket defining at least one locating hole having a hole edge and the cylinder head defining a hole, the fixing pin comprising:

a pin body having:

a top retaining section having a plurality of retaining teeth of different lengths for accommodating the hole edge of the locating hole of the gasket between said teeth;

~~an~~ a bottom insertion section; and

a center shank section to be inserted into the hole of the mounting part via said insertion section and, thereby, produce a push-in connection between the gasket and the cylinder head.

Claim 45 (withdrawn): The fixing pin according to claim 19, wherein:

said at least one long retaining tooth is a plurality of long retaining teeth; and

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said long retaining teeth have integrally formed lugs, at least one of said long retaining teeth and said lugs forming a virtually closed ring.

Claim 46 (withdrawn): The fixing pin according to claim 44, wherein:

said plurality of retaining teeth include relatively long retaining teeth and relatively short retaining teeth;

said long retaining teeth have integrally formed lugs; and

at least one of said long retaining teeth and said lugs form a virtually closed ring.